

ILLEGIB

Approved For Release 2001/03/03 : CIA-RDP78T05439A000500020026-0

Approved For Release 2001/03/03 : CIA-RDP78T05439A000500020026-0

HANDLE VIA
TALENT-KEYHOLE
CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY

~~TOP SECRET RUFF~~

TCS 2901/65
G-MB - 250/65
8 April 1965
Copy 7

DECLASS REVIEW by NIMA/DOD

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Military Division, OCI

25X1A ATTENTION : [REDACTED] Theatre Forces Branch
THRU : Chief, RB/RG/CGS
FROM : Chief, Photographic Intelligence Division, CIA
SUBJECT : Status of Military Forces Near the Sino-Soviet Border
REFERENCE : (1) Requirement No. C-D15-82,191 (Project No. 30134-5)
(2) CIA/PID/GMB Memo dated 16 February 1965, GMB 103/65

25X1D 1. In partial fulfillment of Requirement No. C-D15-82,191 (30134-5),
a search of all portions of the Sino-Soviet border covered on [REDACTED] 25X1D
[REDACTED] was carried out in accordance with the
prescribed procedure of analysing each new mission in an attempt to
determine possible changes in the type or level of military activity
occurring within a 150 nm radius of the border.

25X1D 2. [REDACTED] covered portions of the Sino-Soviet border
area from the Turkestan Military District to the Far East Military District.
Approximately 20% of the border area was programed for photographic coverage.
Inclement weather in the target zones limited interpretable coverage 10%
or less.

3. The major border areas that were covered were limited to the Sino-
Soviet border east of Lake Baykal. Medium to heavy cloud cover precluded
an analysis of border targets west of Lake Baykal.

25X1D 4. Major targets that were covered by [REDACTED] were the Otpor/Manchu-11
area (49 35N-117 26E) and the Blagoveshchensk (50 16N-127 30E) to Vladivostok
(43 07N-131 55E) Sino-Soviet border area in the Far East. There has been no
significant change to ground force military installations noted in these
25X1D areas since [REDACTED]

25X1D 5. [REDACTED] covered only one target with cloud-free
photography along the entire Sino-Soviet border from Turkestan to the
Amur River Valley Region. The military barracks and training area at
Kyakhta (50 21N-106 27E) was covered by good quality, cloud-free photography.
Previous reports have indicated that a rail line serves the Kyakhta complex--
25X1D [REDACTED] reveals that Kyakhta is not rail-served. Activity in the

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

~~TOP SECRET RUFF~~

HANDLE VIA
TALENT-KEYHOLE
CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY

S-16937

HANDLE VIA
TALENT-KEYHOLE
CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY

TOP SECRET RUFF

Kyakhta training areas appears to be at a low level during the winter months. Previously unidentified firing ranges and trench systems are clearly visible on [REDACTED] however, earlier photography of sufficient quality is not available for a comparative analysis that would allow a dating of the trenches and ranges.

25X1D

25X1D

6. [REDACTED] also covered portions of the border area east of Chita, the Blagoveshchensk area, the Khabarovsk area and the Iman area. No significant change to military ground force facilities were noted.

25X1D

7. Coverage of the Mongolian Republic was less than 1% of the total area of Mongolia on [REDACTED]

25X1D

8. A continuing analysis of the Otpor (49 38N-117 19E)/Manchou-li (49 35N-117 26E) Sino-Soviet border area on [REDACTED]

25X1D

25X1D

[REDACTED] has revealed the following changes to Reference No. 2.

25X1D

a. Comparative photographic Coverage of the above referenced missions indicates that the physical facilities in the barracks area south of Manchou-li and that the overall complexes of Otpor and Manchou-li have not significantly changed since the initial interpretable coverage [REDACTED]

25X1D

25X1D

25X1D

b. Some trenching is visible on either side of the border on [REDACTED] however, the poor ground resolution of early KEYHOLE missions (11-20 feet) precludes the identification of trenching with a width of less than 15 feet. [REDACTED] clearly defines extensive trenching and weapon emplacements on either side of the Sino-Soviet border. These trenches and emplacements appear to be inactive. [REDACTED]

25X1D

c. Comparative photographic coverage since [REDACTED] of this area further indicates that there has been no build-up of either billeting or equipment on either side of the border.

25X1D

d. A dating of the trench systems and gun emplacements cannot be established prior to the initial interpretable photographic coverage of [REDACTED]

9. The photo analysis on this project was performed by [REDACTED] 25X1A CIA/PID/GMB, who may be contacted on ext. 3446 for any additional information.

10. This memo is in partial response to the referenced requirement.

25X1A
[REDACTED]

- 2 -

TOP SECRET RUFF

HANDLE VIA
TALENT-KEYHOLE
CONTROL SYSTEM ONLY

S-16937